

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-11 and 17-25 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the specification and claims 1 and 24 are amended and claims 12-16 are cancelled.

Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 8-11. However, for the reasons discussed below, all of claims 1-11 and 17-25 are allowable.

An Information Disclosure Statement was filed on December 3, 2003. However, references 3-6 of that Information Disclosure Statement were not considered because it appeared that the references were not submitted. See paragraph 1 of the Office Action. References 3-6 were cited in the parent application, U.S. Application No. 10/396,603, which is relied on for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Thus, copies of the references were not submitted. See 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d)(1). However, for the Examiner's convenience, references 3-6 are attached. Reference 12 was also not considered. Applicants submitted a copy of reference 12 with the December 3, 2003 Information Disclosure Statement. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider references 3-6 and 12 and return an initialed Form PTO-1449.

Claims 1-7 and 12-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and claim 25 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Yoshie et al. (Yoshie), U. S. Patent No. 5,515,150. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Yoshie fails to disclose a tray with a surface and a projection formed integrally with the surface, as recited in claim 1 and as similarly recited in claim 24.

Yoshie disclose a second tray 371 with a first end pivotally mounted on the fulcrum shaft provided at one end of the automatic document feeder 300 (col. 9, lines 59-61 and Figs. 3, 5 and 6) and a second end with a light extending tray 372 (col. 11, lines 4-5, Figs. 3, 5 and 6). The extending tray 372, allegedly corresponding to the projection of claims 1 and 24, is composed of wires at an upper end portion of the second tray 371.


As clearly shown in Figs. 3 and 5 of Yoshie, the extending tray 372 is not formed integrally with the second tray 371 because the extending tray 372 and the second tray 371 are two separate structural features. In fact, the extending tray 372 is pivotally mounted to the second tray 371 such that an end of the extending tray 372 can extend away from the second tray 371. Accordingly, Yoshie fails to disclose a projection that is formed integrally with the second tray 371.

Accordingly, Yoshie fails to disclose or suggest all of the features recited in claims 1 and 24 as well as the additional features recited in the dependent claims. It is respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-11 and 17-25 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: February 7, 2005

Attachment:

References 3-6 and 12  
Petition for Extension of Time

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